

## JOHN CLARENCE AND ELIZABETH McCOARD WHITING

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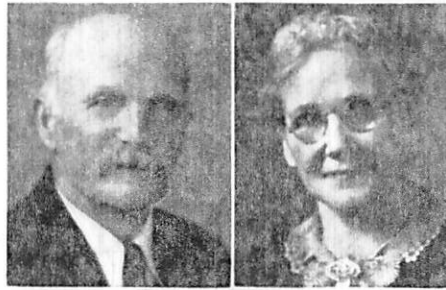
Elizabeth McCoard was born 17 November, 1868, to William and Hannah Miller McCoard at St. Louis, Missouri. Received schooling in elementary schools in Utah, and went to Ohio to complete her education. Taught school for many years.

They were married 12 June, 1895. They

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## HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



filled an LDS mission in Montana 1898-1900. John Clarence died 17 August 1953. Elizabeth McCoard Whiting died 3 October, 1952.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiting were truly stalwarts of their church and community. Mr. Whiting's parents had joined the Church in its earliest days, and had experienced the joys, persecutions, and hardships of being hated "Mormons." His father became one of the Prophet Joseph Smith's bodyguards and was a colonel in the Nauvoo Legion. His mother came to Utah with a handcart company when just a girl. She taught school to help raise her family of seven. The large Whiting family spread out from Springville and settled in Mapleton.

John Clarence spent most of his early life in the mountains of that vicinity where he and his brothers operated a sawmill. He loved to fish and hunt. An ardent love for God's great out-of-doors was a motivating factor all his life.

He "loved the rocks and rills—the woods and templed hills."

Harrison R. Merrill's lovely poem, "Oh God Let This Be Heaven" might have been written for him.

Elizabeth McCoard's childhood was very different. Her father was a successful businessman. When she was very young, the family came to Utah to visit a relative who had joined the Mormons. Seeing promising business opportunities in Utah, they returned after the railroad was completed and made their home in Salt Lake City, later American Fork, then Provo.

When Elizabeth was 18 years old, she went to Ohio to complete her education. Upon returning to Utah, her greatest desire was to teach school in a Mormon community where she hoped that through the children she could help the parents see how wrong their religious beliefs were. Instead

she became a member of the Church in 1895.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiting's first home was in Hobble Creek Canyon. In March 1902, they moved to Wallsburg with their three children. They soon became a very happy, active part of that community. Their musical and dramatic ability kept them in constant demand. Their service to the Church was untiring. Mr. Whiting served as Sunday School superintendent, class leader, and first counselor to Bishop George P. Garff. He was present at the time Bishop Garff was accidentally shot and afterwards bore testimony to the bishop's miraculous healing. He also served in many civic positions.

Mrs. Whiting served as MIA president, Sunday School teacher, and was the only organist in Wallsburg at that time. While her husband operated his ranch, she taught school.

During their happy years in Wallsburg, two sons and one daughter were born.

In the spring of 1912, the Whitings purchased the William Wright ranch located at the junction of the Wallsburg Creek and Provo River and became members of the Charleston Ward.

Volumes could be written about life on the "old ranch" which was already rich in its tradition as being the "friendly stopping place" for man and beast. It was a child's paradise. The river, teeming with trout; the bass pond full of frogs, bass, and mosquitoes; mysteriously beautiful hills to climb; and the majesty of Mount Timpanogos towering protectingly above. All these, coupled with plenty of good hard work, made it unforgettable.

The long winter evenings were memorable, with mother at the organ, father with his harmonica, and the children gathered round singing the beautiful songs of the day.

These parents shared and taught their children a deep appreciation of good literature. No day was ever too dark or lonely for them, because they loved to read and there was always material at hand.

These years were filled to overflowing with accomplishment, joy, and sorrow. Mr. Whiting established a purebred Hereford cattle business. His stock ranked with the best in the state. Both Mr. and Mrs. Whiting were devoted to the Church, and they continued to serve as before. Mrs. Whiting served 14 years as president of the Relief Society, traveling the four miles from home

## CHARLESTON BIOGRAPHIES

to Church by horse and buggy. During this time they lost two sons. Edward L., their baby, who was four, and William E., a student at Brigham Young University, who was 18 years old.

Six children were born to this union.

Children include: Wayne Clarence Whiting, Nellie Whiting, William Edwin, Hannah, Frank M., and Edward L. 1041



The old Wallsburg Ward Chapel and school, which was built during the term of Bishop William E. Nuttall, who was bishop from 1877 to 1886. At the time the chapel was constructed a separate building was erected for young men and still another Relief Society building for the women.

ceeded by Francis Kerby. Counselors to Bishop Kerby were John C. Parcell and Dixon H. Greer, with Joseph K. Parcell, clerk.

Other bishoprics have been as follows:

Bishop Franklin A. Fraughton, July 14, 1887 to May 11, 1903. Robert Cook and Lewis Mecham were counselors and five men served during the years as clerks. They were Joseph K. Parcell, Ethan Allen Duke, Joseph K. Parcell, John C. Greer and John Lewis Parcell.

Bishop George Peter Garff, May 11, 1903 to Jan. 28, 1912. His counselors were William A. Nuttall, William J. Boren and John C. Whiting. Clerks were John Lewis Parcell and John M. Calderwood.

Bishop William P. Fullmer, Jan. 28, 1912 to March 26, 1916. Counselors were Franklin A. Fraughton, John Frank Mecham and Clerks Landy M. Foster and John C. Greer.

Bishop George A. Gardner, March 26, 1916 to July 1, 1934. Counselors included Ernest Jacobsen, George L. Batty and Alfred Ford Jr. Lewis C. Parcell was clerk during the entire period of Bishop Gardner's service.



The Charleston Co-Operative Creamery begun in 1894 by George Daybell and later expanded to this building by Mr. Daybell and Joseph R. Murdock.

They had seven milk wagons bringing in milk from local farms. They processed about 21,000 gallons of milk a day, and sold their butter, cheese and other milk products as far west as California and into the eastern markets.

Nymphas C. Murdock's son, Joseph, built a saw mill on the Provo River just north of Charleston, east of the Provo River bridge and west of the George Edwards home. A pond was also built in which water was stored over-night to provide a sufficient supply for the following day's operation. Logs were hauled from all parts of the valley to the saw mill which operated successfully for many years.

Through the years there have been many other businesses in Charleston. Emil Kohler ran a meat market, while Phoebe North Daybell had a millinery shop. Sarah Ritchie Wright had a fine dressmaking parlor, while Ernest Bates was proprietor of a popular ice cream and confectionery parlor. One of the state's leading mid-wives, Mrs. Etta Wagstaff, also practiced in Charleston.

Charleston's main industrial efforts, however, have centered around agriculture. Thousands of acres of meadow lands have supported large herds of dairy cattle, flocks of blooded sheep and hundreds of head of beef cattle.

From the farms near Charleston have annually come some 40,000 bushels of grain and hundreds of tons of hay. Bishop John M. Ritchie and some associates purchased and imported a herd of some 300 head of pure-bred Hereford cattle, and later Hyrum, Moroni and Fred Winterman and John C. Whiting imported fine breeding stock to make Charles-

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## Ruth Whiting

SPRINGVILLE — Gloria Ruth Thorpe Whiting, 62, of Springville, died Oct. 1, 1991, at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center in Provo.

She was born July 3, 1929, in Spanish Fork to Arthur Franklin and Jennie Mae Whiting Thorpe. She married Melvin Leo Whiting, Sept. 14, 1950, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. They were later divorced.



She was a member of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, and enjoyed painting and flower arranging. She also enjoyed home decorating and collecting antique dolls and furniture.

She is survived by four sons, Marcel Whiting, Houston; Rodney Whiting, Phoenix; Brent Whiting, Seattle; Mark Whiting, Springville; 11 grandchildren; three sisters, Arthella Warner, Salt Lake City; Norma Barneck, Clearfield; Rita Hardy, Springville. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Gordon and Jay.

Funeral will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Springville 8th/10th/23rd wards chapel, 355 E. Center. Friends may call Monday, 6-8 p.m. at Wheeler Mortuary, 211 E. 200 South, Springville, and Tuesday 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the mortuary.

Burial in the Evergreen Cemetery.